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Practitioner's Docket No.: 939_023

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO and Masashi FUKUYAMA

Ser. No.: 09/819,330

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filed: March 28, 2001

Examiner: Patel, T.

Confirmation No.: 4237

For: OPTICAL FIBER ARRAY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on January 6, 2003 at (703) 872-9318.

Tara L. Preston
Tara L. Preston**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 6, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

FAX RECEIVED**In the Claims:**

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Please rewrite claim 1 as follows:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

1. (Twice Amended) An optical fiber array, comprising: a holding member including a substrate having flat surfaces arranged on opposite sides of a group of sectional V-shaped housing grooves formed in said substrate for housing optical fibers on a top face, said optical fibers each having an optical fiber tip end bare portion housed in said holding member; a cover plate positioned on the substrate; and an adhesive provided directly between the substrate and the cover plate to fix the optical fibers in the housing grooves, wherein a distance between a center axis of the outermost housing groove and an end portion of the substrate is at least five times larger than the radium of the optical fibers, and a distance Y between the flat surfaces of the substrate and the cover plate is $L/6 \leq Y \leq L$, wherein Y is a

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emb.
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